



STUDY CIRCLE

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JANUARY 27th, 1954

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BULLETIN No. 134 SEPTEMBER 1987

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OBJECTS

1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the **British West Indies** and in addition **BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS.**
2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
3. TO loan books from the Circle library (**home members only**). Borrowers bear postage both ways.
List supplied upon application to Hon. Librarian accompanied by an s.a.e. (9" x 6½") - 2nd Class postage for 150gm rate required.
4. TO publicise 'wants' and furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.
5. TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aim in para 1 above.

MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION

MEMBERSHIP - Is **WORLD WIDE** in scope and open to all whether they be new or advanced collectors.

SUBSCRIPTIONS - The **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION** is £4 for members residing in the UK or Europe and £6 for members who reside elsewhere.

Subscriptions (dues) are payable on 1st January each year and, subject to what is mentioned below, in sterling (by personal cheque or Standing Order drawn on a U.K. Bank, a Banker's Draft, International Money Order, Postal Order or local currency *notes* - no coins will be accepted - e.g. dollars, marks, francs etc.).

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PROGRAMME

1987

Fri. and Sat.
30th. and 31st October

Caribbean Collectors Convention.

Venue The Regent Hotel,
The Parade,
Leamington Spa.

Wed. 2nd December 6-00 pm.

Nine Page Display by Members.
Venue The Law Society Building,
113, Chancery Lane,
London, WC1 1PL.

1988

Thu. 28th January 6-00 pm.

Display Military Mail of Jamaica
by Derek Sutcliffe
Venue The Law Society Building,
113, Chancery Lane,
London, WC1 1PL.

Wed. 2nd March 2-30 pm.

Display Turks & Caicos
by Malcolm Watts
St. Lucia
by Graham Bartlett
Venue STAMPEX,
Royal Horticultural Hall,
London, SW1.

Sat. 23rd April 2-15 pm.

AGM and Auction Sale
Venue The Bonnington Hotel,
Southampton Row,
London, WC1 4BH.

NOTICE

The Circle has opened a GIROBANK Account to assist members in their payment of Annual Subscriptions. Members who use a GIROBANK Account for their normal banking requirements can now pay their Subscription by a simple Transfer from their Account to that of the Circle's.

Our Account Number is: 47 523 3905

It is hoped that this will be of major benefit to our European members in particular.

NOTES and QUERIES

BRITISH WEST INDIES

The Early History of The Specimen Stamps of The Crown Colonies with particular reference to De La Rue Specimen Stamps

The period of the 1860s and 1870s saw the gradual transfer of numerous printing contracts for the stamps of the Crown Colonies from Perkins Bacon & Co. to De La Rue.

During the above mentioned period and into the first half of the 1880's examples of stamps would be supplied by a postal authority to other postal authorities, the main objects being to make known officially a prospective issue or an issue already in existence and, in the early days, primarily to enable the recipient postal authorities to identify a forgery when examined against the genuine stamp in their possession, or, if there was a change of design, colour and sometimes even a change of watermark.

To commence with, in carrying out this procedure the issuing postal authority furnished a stamp or issue of stamps in normal unused condition to other postal authorities, i.e. without any handstamp or overprint to identify the stamp or stamps as a specimen stamp or specimen stamps.

Gradually the custom grew up for a postal authority to provide and distribute to other postal authorities stamps which were handstamped or overprinted "SPECIMEN" OR "CANCELLED" this having come to be regarded by degrees as a satisfactory method of preventing their postal use as the stamps were required for reference purposes. So far as the Crown Colonies generally were concerned this may have been a new system commencing after June 1884 but it had been in use, for example, in connection with certain Great Britain stamps for a number of years previously.

It is now well known that a combination of countries agreed to the formation of the Universal Postal Union which came into existence on 10th October 1874.

Membership of the Universal Postal Union grew rapidly in the first few years after 1874, and the British West Indian Colonies were in the forefront of this rapidly expanding club. For example, Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts and Tortola entered the Universal Postal Union on 1st July 1879.

One of the obligations of the Universal Postal Union at Berne, through its International Bureau, was to receive the required number of specimen stamps from a postal issuing authority of a member country and then to distribute those specimen stamps to all of its member countries.

According to Marcus Samuel on page 19 of his book entitled "Specimen Stamps of The Crown Colonies 1857 - 1948", during the period January 1879 to June 1882 eighty specimen stamps of the Crown Colonies were supplied for distribution to Universal

Postal Union countries in normal unused condition except for “SPECIMEN” overprinted or perforated stamps of British Guiana.

Again, according to Marcus Samuel on page 20 of his book during the period July 1882 to March 1886 one hundred specimens of the stamps of the Crown Colonies were supplied for distribution, and until the end of June 1884 these specimen stamps mostly continued to be supplied in normal unused condition.

This will account for the fact that although a country may have joined the Universal Postal Union at or near its inception, there may be no specimen stamps handstamped or overprinted with the word “SPECIMEN” from that country until after June 1884. In February 1885 (as correspondence later in this article will show) the Crown Agents requested De La Rue that in future an additional six specimens (making the total one hundred and six specimens) of each new colonial stamp would be required for the records of the General Post Office.

With certain exceptions, after the end of June 1884 the general rule was that all stamps from the Crown Colonies had specimen overprints until 1928 when the specimen perforator was brought into use. For example, one outstanding is the Leeward Islands Sexagenary issue of 1897.

This issue managed to escape the net for some reason unknown and received no “SPECIMEN” hand-stamp or overprint. The position as regards this issue only came to light when stamps of the Sexagenary issue appeared on the market some years ago with the “ULTRAMAR” overprint only, thus indicating that they had come out of the official specimen collection of the Portuguese Colonies.

Previously it had been thought that there were no specimen stamps of the Sexagenary issue as it had been assumed that specimen examples would have had a handstamp or overprint of the word “SPECIMEN”.

To be continued.

E.V.Toeg

ANTIGUA

1778 Ship Letter

With reference to Alex Thompson’s note (Bulletin 133, June 1987, P.33) on a letter from Antigua stamped with the SHIPLRE mark without the port of entry, such ‘unstamped ship letters’ indicate arrival at a port without its own mark or failure to apply the mark at the port of entry. The London Ship Letter Office was supplied with special ‘dumb’ handstamps to indicate the nature of the letter in such cases.

The rate on this particular letter would seem to be 8d. and not 4d. I would decipher it as “In all 8” with the 4 deleted, i.e. 4d. Ship Letter levy plus 4d. inland postage.

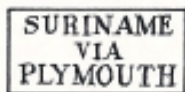
For further information on ‘Unstamped Ship Letters’ see an article in the Stamp and Postal History News, March 30th - April 12th 1983 by W. B. Parker, B.P.F., and my article in the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal Whole No. 130, April 1984.

Peter Brooks

BARBADOS

Wrapper to Suriname and Amsterdam

The Barbados wrapper illustrated was addressed to Paramaribo but on arrival it was re-directed to Amsterdam. At Paramaribo it received the handstruck boxed SURINAME/VIA/PLYMOUTH stamp struck in black. This handstamp had to be applied to all mail sent via Great Britain, Plymouth being the transit port instead of Southampton. From Suriname letters were sent to Demerara where they were put aboard the BWI Packet boats.



VIA with seriffed letters in use from 1881 - 1903



Postmarks: Barbados duplex cds dated 27.4.1898, on face and Amsterdam cds dated 12.6.1898 on reverse.

Reference: Suriname - A Postal History 1700 - 1956 by Dr. J. D. Riddell.

Basil Benwell

BERMUDA

Modern Postal Markings

Collectors of modern British West Indies' postal markings, and particularly those who have a special interest in Bermuda, may be interested in the results of some research conducted by me during the summer of 1975. The object of this research was

to establish, as far as possible, the extent of the service offered to the general public by the Post Office in Bermuda through its several offices, and also to discover what postal markings are available for use on mail passing through those offices.

I feel strongly that it is important that information respecting modern postal markings should not be neglected as an area of study. These markings will provide future collectors with the raw material for their hobby. Therefore, it behoves us to make a record of, and publish, whatever useful information comes to our notice.

In this connection I prepared questionnaires which were sent to each individual post office in the colony of Bermuda:

Hamilton.	Reply received
St. George's.	Reply received
Paget.	
Pembroke North.	Reply received
Ireland Island.	
Mangrove Bay.	Reply received
Somerset Bridge.	Reply received
Southampton.	Reply received
Warwick.	Reply received
Devonshire North.	
Barrington Sound.	Reply received
Flatts.	
Crawl.	Reply received
Bailey's Bay.	
Perot Post Office.	

The questionnaires asked for the following information:

The address of the office; the name of the Postmaster; the opening times; whether or not 'Post Office Boxes' were available; how many handstamps are in use for (a) letters and (b) parcels; whether or not 'machine cancellations' are in use; whether, and how, mail is registered; whether other marks are used; how often is mail collected from the office; are deliveries made from the office; is mail sorted prior to dispatch. An additional request was made for any other information which might be useful but which had not been specifically asked for. The Hamilton and St. George's offices received a more enlarged questionnaire in view of their status. The additional questions asked of these offices related to special marks known to be used in those offices, i.e., postage due & etc.

Hamilton Post Office:

This is the principal office in Bermuda and its address is:

The General Post Office, Hamilton, 5.24, Bermuda. The activities of the Post Office come under the supervision of the Postmaster General, Mr. Sydney R. Corbett.

The Hamilton Office houses the administrative portion of the organisation, the Philatelic Bureau, the Parcel Post Office and a counter for public use. The office is open daily (except Sundays and Public Holidays) between 8am and 5pm. The office has 'Post Office Box' facilities available.

Postal Markings

Handstamps (circular date stamps)

All are 30mm. circles, lettering 'sans serif capitals'.

1. 'Hamilton Bermuda' with ornamental crosses and small collection letters.
2. 'Hamilton Bermuda' without ornamental crosses but with small collection letters.
3. 'Hamilton Bermuda' without ornamental crosses but with large collection letters.



1.



2.

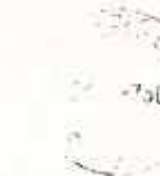


3.

4. 'Paguebot Bermuda' without ornamental crosses and with large collection letters.
5. 'Registered GPO Bermuda' without ornamental crosses and with large collection letters.
6. 'Parcel post GPO Bermuda' with ornamental crosses and with large collection letters. (For use on parcels).



4.



5.



6.

Machine Cancellations

2 machine cancellors are now in use at this office, Slogans can be varied.

Registered Mail

When mail is registered a numbered, sticky label is applied.

Official Paid Handstamps

1. Circular stamp with a diameter of 27mm. Has the words 'Bermuda Official' (with a dot between the words) around part of the inside of the circumference and the word 'Paid' in the middle. This mark is in black.
2. As 1. but in red.

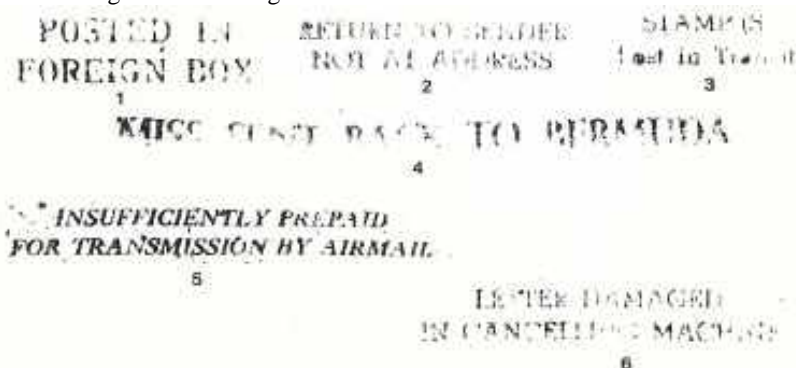
3. As 2. but with a 26.5mm. diameter circle.



Miscellaneous Markings. All these markings are in red

A. With seriffed capitals.

1. 'posted in foreign box'.
2. 'Return to sender not at address'.
3. 'Stamps(s) Lost in Transit'.
4. 'Miss sent back to Bermuda'
5. 'Insufficiently prepaid for transmission by airmail'.
6. 'Letter damaged in cancelling machine'



Postage Due Marks. All these marks are in red.

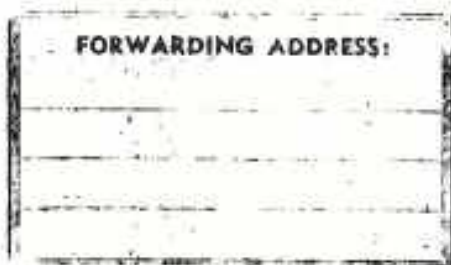
1. 'Postage Due' with a space below for amount, a decimal point and a line of dots. All boxed 25mm. x 17mm
2. Two circles, side by side. The left hand circle is 20mm. in diameter and has a letter 'T' (sans serif capital) and the word Bermuda underneath. The right hand circle has a diameter of 20.5mm. and is blank.
3. Single circle with a diameter of 22mm. with a large letter 'T' (fancy and with serif) and the word Bermuda below.



Miscellaneous Markings. Boxed.

1. In a box 74.5mm. x 43mm. Forwarding Address and 3 lines.

2. In a box 64.5mm. x 39mm. Return to Sender, reason for non delivery checked. A line then appears across the box and below the following reasons are listed: unclaimed, deceased, moved, left no address and refused. Below this list appears the legend: Do not remail under this cover.
3. In a box 32mm. x 39mm.: Notice, 1st, 2nd, Final and return to sender.
4. In a box 34mm. x 18.5mm.: Returned for _____ Postage.
5. In a box 38.5mm. x 21.5mm.: Returned for more postage. (A small box appears in this marking with spaces for the sum owing to be written in manuscript).
6. As 4. but 40mm. x 21mm. and this mark is in black.



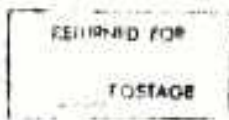
1



2



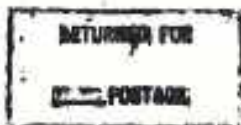
3



4



5



6

B. With sans serif capitals

7. 'Please advise your correspondents of your correct address'.
8. 'Retd., insufficient address'
9. 'Parti (Gone Away)'
10. 'Advertised'.
11. 'All notices ignored'.
12. 'Sealed against inspection subject to first class Mail'.
13. 'Please advise your correspondents of your correct address, House name, street, District'.
14. 'Please advise your Correspondents of your correct Postal Code Address' (a small box appears at the end of the 3rd. line of this mark).
15. 'Missent to Bermuda'.
16. 'Registered'.
17. 'D.L.O. St. George's'.
18. 'Sent to D.L.O.'.
19. 'To insure prompt delivery, it is essential that you have your mail properly addressed showing the Box Number. Please notify your correspondents accordingly'.
20. 'Received in wet condition at GPO Bermuda'.
21. 'Torn in stamp cancelling machine and officially sealed at GPO Bermuda'.
22. 'Received in damaged condition, officially sealed at GPO Bermuda'
23. 'Received at Post Office without contents'.
24. 'Retour - return to sender'.

Please advise your correspondents
of your correct address.

7

RETD. INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS

8

PARTI (GONE AWAY)

9

ADVERTISED

10

ALL NOTICES
IGNORED

11

SEALED AGAINST INSPECTION
SUBJECT TO FIRST CLASS MAIL

12

Please advise your correspondents of your correct address.
House name, Street, District

13

Please Advise Your Correspondents
of Your Correct Postal Code
Address

14

MISSENT TO BERMUDA

15

REGISTERED

16

ST. GEORGES

17

SENT TO D. L. O.

18

4. printed on paper
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100. printed on paper

19

RECEIVED IN WET CONDITION
AT G. P. O. BERMUDA

20

TURN IN STAMP CANCELLING MACHINE,
AND OFFICIALLY SEALED AT G. P. O. BERMUDA

21

RECEIVED IN DAMAGED CONDITION
OFFICIALLY SEALED AT G. P. O. BERMUDA

22

RECEIVED AT POST OFFICE
WITHOUT CONTENTS

23

RETOUR - RETURN TO SENDER

24

TO BE CONTINUED

Ian Chard

Forgeries

TYPE

1

This forgery of the 1865-1903 issue was made by litho and is very interesting. The genuine stamps were type made. The following are in the collection:

1d. rose red,
2d. dull blue,

1d. pale rose,
6d. mauve (shades)

2d. bright blue,
1/- green (shades).

NOTE. There is no 3d. yellow in the collection, doubtless this value was also forged. In the genuine stamp the five values each have a separate design. This applies to the ornamentation in considerable detail, the Head also differs in similar details. If allowance is made for printing pressure differences, wear and dirt, it appears that the forgery used the same Head for all of the five values. This would have facilitated if the Head was copied (not from the genuine) but from the original stone by the photo-litho process. Fournier made use of this method for his massive printings. It may well be therefore that this forgery emanated from his factory in Geneva.

PERFORATIONS These are generally poor, roughly torn or cut. They can be measured on about 50% of the copies as P.13.

CANCELLATIONS All are similarly cancelled with an outline of bars 2.3.2.3. with the long side bars very closely set thus producing a large clear space in the middle.

IDENTS 1.

1. On the genuine stamp the top curl of the hair projects well above the rest of the Head but on the forgery it is only just above.
2. The second ornament from the front of the crown of the genuine stamp is a well defined thistle, on the forgery this is badly drawn and of indefinite shape.
3. On the forgery the litho work is well done especially on the letters. It can be distinguished from Types 2 and 3 (which follow) where the lettering is poorly done.

TYPE 2

This is a lithographed forgery of the 6d. and 1/- values. The 6d. is in a nice lavender colour and not purple as listed, the 1/- is in green as per catalogue. On the whole the work is fairly well executed, the background lines are clear but the lettering of the value of the 1/- is unevenly spaced and the final letter E of sixpence has an overlong top bar.

PERFORATION Basically 12* but most edges are either badly torn or imperforate.

CANCELLATIONS This consists of 8 parallel bars 2mm apart with the inner bars progressively longer than the outer bars resulting in an oval shaped end.

IDENTS 1.

1. The work is litho and not recess.
2. The cut off section of the bust rises too high at the back.
3. The bottom curl of the chignon is missing with the result that it is too short.
4. The horizontal lines of shading behind the head on the forgery above the O&N of ONE finish short of the oval producing a white patch at that point. On the genuine stamp the lines finish equally clear all round.

TYPE 3

Litho produced, 1d. rose red. The lines of shading behind the Head are good and clear as is the rest of the work in the Head. The Lettering both at the top and bottom is very

poor, for example, the letter A of Bermuda is almost filled, the letter m has a very thin left leg and the y of Penny has the two slanting arms at the top almost filled.

PERFORATION This forgery is so roughly and poorly perforated that measurement is not possible.

IDENTS

1. This is litho instead of recess.
2. The hair at the back of the Head is topped by a massive complete curl which dominates the rest of the hair.
3. There is an extra thin red frame line 3/4mm outside the proper frame lines and the torn perforations fall outside this extra frame.

Note: Types 2 and 3 have been included as it may well be that other values than those listed were made.

Forgery of the Three Pence surcharge (diagonally) on the 1d. rose red. This is quite a valuable stamp and expert opinion is quoted here.

IDENTS

1. The letter P of Pence had a fancy top similar to that used to surcharge the 1/- green. It should have been a plain top.
2. All genuine are centred downwards and to the left, the forgery is centred to the right.
3. All of the genuine are from the lower left pane of 60 which has a wing margin on the right. This forgery has a (trimmed) wing margin on the left.
4. The measurements of the surcharge are incorrect even for the fancy type SG.6a.

COMMENT

Measured, the forgery is 1mm too long.

Al Branston

BRITISH GUIANA

1876 Specimens

Michael Medlicott (Bulletin 132) reports a discovery of the 1876 48c perforated specimen, unlisted by Townsend and Howe. I have two copies and several others are known. I have my doubts, however, that "discovery of the 96c perforated specimen may not be far behind". It is thought that the perforated specimens were produced a few years later than the overprints and that by that time the 96c had been demonetised following a theft in 1878 (the remainders were subsequently used for provisionals in 1881). Samuel's "Specimen Stamps of the Crown Colonies", which is a more reliable record of specimens than T. and H., records the 48c and the lower values, but not the 96c, with specimen perforation (Samuel Type BG3). However, Samuel suggests that the lower values were part of a regular UPU distribution, whereas the 48c was not. This does not accord with my experience of the relative scarcity of these stamps.

I should add that I have seen a reference to an 1876 96c perforated specimen in a Harmers New York auction catalogue of 11 May 1982 (Lot 208). If any member bought this lot, I should be interested to hear from him since I am inclined to suspect that this may have been a mis-description.

Michael Medlicott also refers to the specimen overprints on the same set. An interesting feature of this distribution to the UPU was that eight of the values were De La Rue products, but the 48c was a Waterlow stamp, the perf 10 issued in 1886. One must assume that stocks of this were still ample and that the 1876 48c was not immediately put on sale (each of these were also subsequently used for the manufacture of provisionals in 1881). T. and H. is correct, so far as I know, in omitting the 1876 48c from its record of the UPU specimens, but I am at a loss to understand why they also omit the 8c. All the sets seen have included this value and it seems no scarcer than its fellows.

I should add that each of the five low values printed in 1882 with CA watermark also exist perforated specimen. Members who are interested in any of these issues would be well advised to buy the book on specimen stamps by James Bendon which is to be published in due course. This will contain many new facts and some plausible theories about these most interesting and elusive stamps.

Charles Freeland

Early Date Stamps

Ed Addis' two Plaisance covers (Bulletin 133) remind me of one of my collection. This too has the stamps obliterated by a cork cancel and a T. and H. type 2 strike alongside (although in this case it just touches the stamps, probably unintentionally). The cover is the one referred to on page 342 of T. and H. addressed to East Coast, with Mariabba and Georgetown cds of 2nd June 1879. It bears a pair of the 1878 1c provisionals created by cancelling 6c stamps with horizontal and vertical bars.



On the evidence of this cover, I think one can broaden Ed's hypothesis to suggest that the widespread use of cork cancellations around this period explains why the type 2 strikes are so seldom seen on adhesives.

Charles Freeland

BRITISH HONDURAS

Surcharges

From time to time I have speculated on the quantities in which various surcharges of the British West Indies have been issued. The problem normally arises in the case of local surcharges, for which adequate records have not been preserved.

I am not aware of any published figures in respect of the series of local surcharges issued in British Honduras at the beginning of 1888; it would be rather satisfying if some new information about these issues could be unearthed to mark their forthcoming centenary.

With nothing specific to contribute at this stage, I can only suggest some lines of enquiry.

1. The 1888 issues mark the formal transition from shillings and pence to dollars and cents. In many West Indian territories two currencies were in use side by side over a considerable period. In this instance, were the stamps in the superceded currency replaced at a stroke by the stamps rated in cents? Or was there a period of overlap in which
 - (a) the public could go on using up its pence stamps, or, more importantly,
 - (b) the post office could actually go on selling these?
2. In the case of total supersession, one would have expected the local postal authorities to assemble for surcharging substantially all the pence issues still in stock, and convert these by surcharge. The only preliminary exercise needed would be to ascertain that there was a sufficient number of a basic stamp to merit conversion, and then to decide how to allocate the new issues amongst the various basic stamps.
3. We can assume that colour was the essential factor in deciding which stamps to surcharge; values of 2, 3, 10, 20 and 50 cents were required, and we can conclude that, in so far as 1d. blue or 1/- green stamps were in stock at the time, there were not enough of these to warrant a special surcharge. On the other hand, the earlier 6d. stamps were close enough in shade to the current 1d. stamps for both to be conveniently surcharged 2 CENTS. No distinction could be expected to be made between stamps (of the same colour) in different perforations or, indeed, of different watermarks. Is it safe to infer that by the end of 1887 there were not 4d. mauve CC stamps left in stock?
4. We can observe in contrast that there must have been an odd pane, perhaps two, of the 3d. CC still available in perf 12; and that the 6d. rose must have been sold side by side for a period in both perforations, a fresh consignment having presumably been put into stock at the retail counter before the earlier one had been exhausted. Is

it also a fair inference that the post offices would have stopped selling the 6d. rose (in favour of the 6d. yellow) when the colour changed?

We shall get no guide at all to the issued quantities by speculating about the 6d. CC perf 12; nor do I think that there is much to be learned from the 1d. carmine rose. Empirically, I believe that approximately equal quantities of the 6d. CC perf 14 and of the 3d. CC were surcharged; and here we do have the guidance that the 6d., in its characteristically pale rose shade, was a single low printing. In my experience the stamp unsurcharged is considerably scarcer than it is with the surcharge, and a fair assessment of quantity can perhaps be made.

The 6d. yellow and 1/- grey provide further clues; the initial printings were of 6000 and 3000 stamps; at the time of writing, I have not checked whether there were further consignments of either value - presumably not, for the 6d. at least. Both values are scarce without surcharge, neither being in my experience significantly easier to get than the other.

I have deliberately not put forward figures to this point, and shall largely refrain from doing so; but can it be far out to propound that some 900 each of the 6d. and 1/- values were unsurcharged? On the figures above (if right) 85 and 35 panes, respectively, of 60 stamps would have been surcharged with 20 and 50 cents. There was low demand for the latter, a lot for the 2 cent value, so that many (30 to 32 panes) were further surcharged with TWO about three months later. When De La Rue sent new printings from London, the 20 cent value was not among those first supplied, which gives me more confidence in my suggested figure of 5,100 local surcharges. When the London Surcharges were remaindered there were - writing from memory - more than half the initial printing of 30,000 20 cent stamps still in stock.

Guesswork aside, currency conversion and the surcharging of stamps with new values both play havoc with a postmaster's accounting; and the postmaster in Belize would have had to record for the benefit of his superiors the financial effects of conversion and surcharge. Is it too much to hope that some hard facts have survived for a mere 99 years, and that one of our members knows where to look for the record of them?

Simon Goldblatt

LEEWARD ISLANDS

Fee Stamps

The most interesting notes of Michael Medlicott on Leeward Islands FEE Stamps in the March 1987 Bulletin do much toward filling the void in reported information on this area.

In regard to the Victorian issues, the £1 value has the duty plate in either lilac or purple, rather than carmine. I base this on a used example which may be in monocolour, unless "washed-out". Further, I am told by Roger Booth that the C.A. Archives record the duty plate colour as deep purple.

The Edwardian issues of 1902 also contain a £1 value with the duty plate in deep purple, according to Booth. In addition, an earlier edition of the Barefoot & Hall catalogue lists the £1 value as “lilac”. The 2s. duty plate colour change occurred in 1906, according to Booth and to the earlier catalogue.

In regard to the two Georgian issues, I can confirm that the first issue was on Multiple Crown CA paper from used copies of the 2s. and 5s. values. Further, Booth states that the first issue was produced in 1915, and the second in 1918, with the first issue in deeper colors than the second. I have examples of used copies of the 6d. and 1s. values on Multiple Script CA paper that confirm such colour differences. Finally, according to Booth, both Georgian issues contained £1 values with the duty plate in deep purple.

William G. Cornell

ST. KITTS

Unrecorded “Eden” Handstamp



The manuscript markings of the Eden, Esk and Solent are well known and much sought after. Less attention appears to have been paid to the handstamps used on the same vessels, but at least two handstamps are known for each, sometimes stuck on entires with the stamps themselves being cancelled in manuscript. The illustration shows a handstamp for the Eden which I do not believe has been previously recorded. It appears on a cut-down front bearing a St. Kitts cds of 11 February 1900.

Charles Freeland

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY - No. 4

Addendum

In the “Additions to the Library” notified in Bulletin No. 133 the item under Section 10 (The Die Proofs of Waterlow & Sons) (see top of page 43) should be referenced as ‘A4B 10. 46.’ and not as shown in that Bulletin.

ADDITIONS

Note: The location of each of the following newly acquired items is at present temporary hence the lack of a detailed location reference!

Section 1

Temp 1. 16.

PHILATELY & THE MICROSCOPE Part III BRITISH COLONIES - "THE DE LA RUE DIES"

W.Harold S. Cheavin; Collana di Pubblicazioni Filateliche N.11 (Estratto da Filatelia); Editrice 'Filatelica', Turin; 1927 (In English and French)

The Italian publishing house "Filatelica" produced a number of monographs under this title, all being extracts from their monthly journal "Filatelia", and Monograph No. 11 provides detailed descriptions of Dies I and II of the Queen Victoria keyplate which was used for the issues of Antigua, Cyprus, Grenada, Montserrat, Natal, Nevis, St. Lucia, the Turks Islands and the Virgin Islands. Your reviewer has never seen a complete set of these Monographs - or come to that a detailed listing of them. He has, however, seen No. 12 and 13 both of which cover the De La Rue keytype issues for British Colonies. For BWI interest No. 12 includes British Honduras and the Turks Islands, whilst No. 13 is exclusively in respect of Southern Nigeria.

Section 7 (Sub Section 7. 2. - Study Papers)

Temp 7. 2. 5.

GEOSIX SPECIAL PAPER NO. 3 – ST. KITTS-NEVIS 1938-1950 KG VI Collectors Society; 1973

This paper is simply a detailed description of each printing of the 1938 - 50 issues. It would probably serve its most useful purpose if read in conjunction with the study made by Peter Baldwin. (See Section 2. 19. 1.)

Section 10

Temp 10. 47.

BRITISH POSTAGE STAMP DESIGN

John Easton; Faber & Faber; 3rd Edition; 1945

Mr. Easton was a printer and this book is a detailed, but by no means dull, analysis of the evolution of postage stamp design from 1840 to 1940. He treats the stamp from the standpoint of a work of art, discussing the various problems of lettering and design and the merits and possibilities of differing processes. Eminently readable, very well and profusely illustrated it should be on every philatelist's (or stamp collector's) book shelves.

Temp 10. 48.

POSTAGE STAMPS IN THE MAKING

(F. J. Melville)

John Easton (re-written & completed by); Faber & Faber; 1949

In 1916 the Late F. J. Melville published the first part of his "Postage Stamps in the Making", but the book was never completed. Mr. Easton was already preparing notes for a book on stamp production when it was suggested by the Executive Committee of the Philatelic Congress that he should write a new edition of "Postage Stamps in the Making" in commemoration of Melville. The result provides a very interesting and detailed book on printing techniques, without baffling the reader with technical jargon, and provides a useful companion to "British Postage Stamp Design" (reviewed above).

Temp 10. 49.

THE COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS OF THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

H.D.S.Haverbeck; Faber & Faber; 1955

The beauty of this book is that it gives more than enough information to allow the collector to "write up" the commemorative issues of his particular interests. There are detailed checklists, notes on varieties and where known the quantities of items printed, issued or sold. It gives the background reasons for the issue being described - and the printing details. Readable and well illustrated it is a pleasant work just to delve into on a wet afternoon.

Temp 10. 50.

FUNDAMENTALS OF PHILATELY

L.M. & M.Williams; The American Philatelic
Society Inc.; 1971

Running to nearly 650 pages (and weighing a hefty four pounds!) this must be the best basic book on philately which exists - and there is unlikely to be another such as this for many decades to come. For all that there is a thirty page index of great detail the most irritating feature is a lack of a Contents List guiding one directly to a particular chapter. This is really essential for appended to each chapter is an alphabetical list of terms, definitions and examples relevant to the subject of the chapter concerned. Also note that there is an Appendix of two and a half pages of "some" Corrigenda and Addenda! Printed on high quality art paper and profusely illustrated throughout. Without doubt a MUST for every Library - and hang the expense.

Temp 10. 51.

POSTMARKS, CARDS AND COVERS: COLLECTING POSTAL HISTORY

Prince Dimitry Kandaoureff (translated & edited
by William Finlay); Peter Lowe (Eurobook Ltd); 1973.

For the straight-forward stamp collector "Postal History" may be a hurdle of fearsome proportions! Here is a general work introducing it

as a philatelic subject by providing an interesting story of postal services throughout the world from the clay tablets and papyrus rolls of ancient Assyria and Egypt to the Air Mails of the present day. There are many illustrations and a fairly comprehensive index, together with a list of books for further reading, are included.

LIBRARY LIST - SECTION 8 UP-DATE to December 1986

To up-date Section to include Bulletins to Issue No. 131 ADD the following to:-

- | | |
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| 129 | |

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIBRARY LIST IS UNLIKELY TO BE RE-ISSUED IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

CORRECTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIOMS TO THE LIST WILL BE NOTIFIED IN THE BULLETIN AS AND WHEN THEY OCCUR

NEWS ROUNDUP

Caribbean Collectors Convention

Members are reminded that bookings for Hotel accommodation and for the Official Luncheon should be made on the form sent with the June Bulletin, and sent to the Hon. Secretary by 5th October 1987.

It is hoped that all members attending will bring 30 sheets for the Informal Displays which will be put up on a continuous basis during the Convention. In previous years we tend to run out of material in the afternoon.

Please bring your cameras to the Convention. Any photographs taken will be considered for publication in the Bulletin.

No volunteers have yet been forthcoming to act as Stewards on a rota basis on the Convention day. The duties are not onerous and will probably entail only one hours duty on the day. Please get in touch with the Chief Steward, David Atkinson at 54 Wellington Road, Enfield, Mddx., EN1 2PH, Tel No. 01-360 6762 if you are willing to serve. A rota will then be arranged.

The Nevis Postal Authorities announce the release of a new Stamp Issue featuring Fishes which can be found around the Coral Reefs of NEVIS.

The Stamps are eight designs (4 pairs of triangulars). This is the first time ever that Nevis stamps have been produced in triangular shape and it is hoped that this will be of special interest to all Philatelists.

The Issue comprises:

60c	Queen Angelfish (<i>Holocanthus ciliaris</i>) Blue Angelfish (<i>Holocanthus bermudensis</i>)
\$1.00	Stoplight Parrotfish (M) (<i>Sparisoma viride</i>) Stoplight Parrotfish (F) (<i>Sparisoma viride</i>) (Local name Blue Thum and Red Thum)
\$1.50	Hind (<i>Epinephelus adscensionis</i>) (Local name Rock Hind) Hind <i>Epinephelus guttatus</i> (Local name Red Hind)
\$2.50	Coney (<i>Cephalopholis fulva</i>) Common colour phase Coney (<i>Cephalopholis fulva</i>) Red/Brown phase (Local name Butterfish)

The designers Clive Abbott, the Printers format International Security Printers Ltd., the paper is Post Office Watermarked and the stamps are in sheets of panes of 30 pairs. No specimen overprints are available on this issue.

The Hon. Secretary has had a letter (in English) from Mario Nogaro in Italy who wishes to exchange stamps of the West Indies for those of Italy and/or West Germany. If any Member - or perhaps more suitably a junior member of the family - would like to take up this offer please contact the Hon. Sec. for details. In the meantime, the Hon. Sec. is left holding about 100+ used modern stamps of Italy (all different)!

OPINION SERVICE (Home Members only)

Facilities are available for opinions to be given on most stamps of the B.W.I. Group for which a fee of 1-50 per stamp or cover is charged*. Members wishing to take advantage of this service should send the stamp(s) or cover(s) to the Hon. Secretary enclosing a remittance for the appropriate fee together with an addressed envelope (stamped additionally for Registration or Recorded Delivery). Every endeavour will be made to return the item(s) within fourteen days. All stamps or covers submitted are accepted entirely at the sender's risk and neither the Circle nor any of its members, collectively or individually, can be held responsible for the loss or damage of any items or for any opinion expressed.

* In instances where it is necessary to consult more than one specialist additional postage will be charged to the sender.

MEMBERS WANTS

As proposed at the AGM members wants will be published free of charge according to the availability of space in the Bulletin. Please keep your wants as concise as possible.

The Hon. Treasurer/Librarian seeks any (or all) of the following Bermuda items (listed in order of need):-

- (a) First Flight (9 June 1939) cover to England bearing Air Mail Cachet AC4 (per Ludington);
- (b) Official illustrated First Flight covers of the November 1964 Qantas inaugural Sydney to London via Mexico service (and vice versa). The covers sought are those from Bermuda to Nassau, Mexico City, Acapulco and London, and also these to Bermuda from London, Fiji, Tahiti, Acapulco, Mexico City and Nassau - assuming they exist! If any member has examples of these covers would they please advise as information on their existence is somewhat sparse to say the least.
- (c) Ppc's, b/w or coloured, used or unused (the latter with or without adhesives!). Tatty items accepted but obviously pristine condition preferred! Please send details of the publisher, serial number (where given) subject and if b/w or colour. Actual cards may be sent but they will be returned if not required.
- (d) Any 1925 flight covers bearing Air Mail Cachets AC1 and AC2 (per Ludington). Only good clear examples please of cachets and/or cancellations.

Modern (post 1960) First Flight Covers to and from Jamaica. Also FFC's all periods from Central and South America to Jamaica. D.W.Atkinson, 54 Wellington Road, Enfield, Mddx., EN1 2PM.

NEW MEMBERS

Allen N.E.	2 Borrowdale Drive, Norwich, Norfolk NR1 4LX Special interests: Turks and Caicos
Edwards J.L.	Tyn-F Cagdv, Tafarn-Ffgdw, Llanrwst, Gwynedd LL26 0NW
Radley Lt.Col.K.J.	IMS-Int Div, NATO HQ, BFPO 49 Special Interests: Leeward Islands
Saunders K.W.J.	70 Main Road, Hockley, Essex SS5 4RF Special Interests: All BWI KG V, VI & QE II to 1960
Wilde A.R.	'Broomsquires' Llangar Grove, Crowthorne, Berks Special Interests: Barbados 1906 Issue

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Forand M.	207-214 Charlotte Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 8L2, Canada
Nethersole M.	P.O.Box 103, Wits 2050, Republic of

DECEASED

Mathews W.H.

NOTICE

“INDEX TO BULLETINS Nos. 1 TO 100”

This new publication, printed in the same format as the Bulletin and in soft cover so that it can be included in a Binder, is now available from the Hon. Librarian.

Price - for orders RECEIVED BEFORE 31st December 1987- £3.25 each (or USA \$6.25).

For orders received AFTER 31st December 1987 the price will be increased to £5.25 (USA \$9.50).

Members are reminded that previous issues of the Bulletin from No. 69 onward (and some earlier issues mainly in small quantities) are available for purchase. For all other previous issues, a copying service will be made available as soon as a set of Bulletins (from No. 1 to No. 100) can be obtained and provided to our printers. A photocopy of a complete Bulletin will cost £1.40 (USA \$2.50) including postage, whilst a copy of two facing pages on untrimmed A4 size paper (the minimum size which is to be provided) will cost 35p (USA \$1.00) including postage. Orders for back issues and photocopies of the Bulletin must be prepaid and sent to the Hon. Librarian.

Members are advised to obtain any early issues they may need from the Hon. Librarian while he holds stocks - some of them are few in quantity!

B.W.I.S.C. PUBLICATIONS

All the following are available from the Librarian.

<p>“THE HISTORY OF THE SAILING PACKETS TO THE BRITISH WEST INDIES” by L.E. Britnor Hardbound, Qto., 172pp plus Index, 18 illustrations and 5 maps.</p>	U.K.	£12.00
	Europe &	
	Overseas	£14.00
	U.S.	\$25.00
	Members Discount	£2.00
<p>“BARBADOS POST OFFICE MARKINGS TO 1981” by Clarke, Cave and Radford Hardbound, Qto., 71pp, profusely illustrated. A limited number Edition.</p>	U.K.	£16.00
	Europe &	
	Overseas	£17.00
	U.S.	\$30.00
	Members Discount	£2.00
<p>“POSTAL CENSORSHIP IN BARBADOS DURING THE FIRST AND SECOND WORLD WARS” by Anthony Shepherd. Softbound, Qto., 32pp, illustrated</p>	U.K.	£6.50
	Europe &	
	Overseas	£8.00
	U.S.	\$14.00
	Members Discount	£0.50
<p>ST. KITTS-NEVIS - AN INTERIM STUDY OF THE KG. VI KEY-TYPE STAMPS 1938-1950. by Peter Baldwin. A4 format, 27pp, single side printing, Illustrated, spiral bound.</p>	U.K. & Eur	£3.00
	Eur (Air)	£3.50
	Overseas	
	(Surface)	£3.50
	Air Printed	
	Paper	£4.50
	U.S.	\$8.00
	Air Letter	£6.00
	US	\$10.50
	(No discounts)	

BULLETINS AND BINDERS

BULLETINS

<p>Copies of the Bulletin from No. 69 and a few earlier issues are available. For details of discounts irrespective of destination please see Bulletin No. 121 (June 1984) page 40.</p>	U.K.	£ .75
	Europe &	
	Overseas	£ 1.00
	U.S.	\$ 2.00

BINDERS

<p>Cordex Instantaneous Self-Binders, each capable of holding 20 issues of the Bulletin. Hard covers, Spine entitled in gold.</p>	U.K.	£ 3.75
	Europe &	
	Overseas	£ 4.50
	U.S.	\$ 2.00
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